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Snohomish County Uses Federal Funds to Help Hundreds of Households at Risk of Foreclosure

SNOHOMISH COUNTY, Wash., April 25, 2023 – Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers and Treasurer Brian Sullivan, with the support of the County Council, allocated \$400,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to provide foreclosure assistance to families disproportionally impacted by COVID-19 who are struggling to overcome the lasting impacts of the pandemic.

This targeted one-time program supports disproportionately impacted households at risk of foreclosure and will allow qualifying families to access ARPA funds to cover their overdue 2020 tax bill.

"The Executive and I believe in doing our best to keep families stable and in their homes. This assistance program is a hand-up for our neighbors, vulnerable communities, seniors, and families to keep them in their homes and on the road to recovery from the pandemic," stated Treasurer Sullivan.

"Keeping families housed is one of the most important ways we can address this region's homelessness crisis. By using our federal ARPA funds to keep vulnerable families in their homes, we're helping our entire community recover from the lasting effects of the pandemic," said Executive Somers. "I'm grateful to our partners at the Treasurer's Office for the compassionate and smart use of these funds."

"COVID-19 was a monumental challenge for the nation and for Snohomish County. While many have been able to move forward, the effects of the pandemic are still being felt by many families in Snohomish County. We are working in partnership across the county to make sure we help these families recover" said County Council Chair Jared Mead (District 4).

The Treasurer's office reached out to 160 households and families who are at risk of foreclosure. Contacted applicants must make less than 40 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) and assistance is only available for a family's primary residence.

If you are at risk of foreclosure, please monitor your mailbox for a letter from the Treasurer's office. If you have questions about the program, you can contact the Treasurer's office at STR-ARPA@snoco.org or check out our frequently asked questions page here.

Executive Somers established the Office of Recovery and Resilience to guide the County's recovery work by ensuring federal pandemic relief is administered quickly, effectively, and equitably. Information on the County's recovery work can be found at www.snohomishcountywa.gov/recovery.